



**MEMORANDUM**  
**COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors  
FROM: David Boesch, County Executive Officer  
By: David Snyder, Director, Economic Development  
DATE: May 3, 2016  
SUBJECT: Sister County Resolution with Nanping County, China

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Adopt a resolution supporting a trip to China with the ultimate goal of establishing a sister county relationship with Nanping County in the Fujian Province.

**BACKGROUND**

A countywide delegation of Placer County elected officials, civic leaders, and business representatives are traveling to Fujian Province on the southeastern coast of China in early June 2016. The delegation will be led by Mike Holmes, former mayor of Auburn who also served in the Beijing Embassy. An opportunity exists to create a sister county relationship between Placer and Nanping counties, and the purpose of the trip is to lay the groundwork such that a long-term cooperative relationship between the two counties is developed through which cultural, educational, business and technical exchanges take place. It will be formalized when the highest elected or appointed officials sign a memorandum of understanding establishing the relationship. Nanping County encompasses 10,146 square miles with a population of 2,645,549 and a GDP of \$391 billion. It is located in one of the more affluent provinces (Fujian) with many industries spanning tea production clothing, sporting goods and one of the world's largest battery plants. Boeing, Dell, GE, Kodak, Seimens and Panasonic have operations there. Rice is the main crop supplemented by sweet potatoes, wheat and barley. Beautiful mountain scenery, historic temples, and quaint villages attract visitors year round.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no cost to the County to express support for the delegation. Should County employees or officials attend, a travel request will be brought before the Board of Supervisors at a later date.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Resolution  
Attachment 2 – Map

# Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

**In the matter of:**

SUPPORTING A TRIP TO CHINA WITH  
THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF ESTABLISHING  
A SISTER COUNTY RELATIONSHIP WITH  
NANPING COUNTY IN THE FUJIAN PROVINCE

Resolution No.: \_\_\_\_\_

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held May 3, 2016, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, the County of Placer seeks to establish a sister county relationship with Nanping County, located within the Fujian Province of China; and

Whereas, Fujian Province is located on the southeastern coast of China, situated opposite the island of Taiwan, bordered by the provinces of Zhejiang to the north, Jiangxi to the west, Guangdong to the southwest, and the East China Sea to the northeast; and

WHEREAS, Fujian means “Happy Establishment” in Chinese and is known historically as Min, for the “seven Min tribes” that inhabited the area during the Zhou Dynasty (1046 – 256 BC) and was ultimately given its name Fujian during the Song Dynasty (960-1279); and

WHEREAS, Fujian Province is one of the most picturesque in Asia, with wooded hills, plentiful forests, winding streams, orchards, tea gardens, and rice fields on the gentler slopes; and

WHEREAS, Fujian Province encompasses an area of 47,500 square miles with a population of nearly 37 million people; and

WHEREAS, Nanping County contains rich natural resources, seventy species of animals, 400 species of birds, and 1,700 species of plants; and

WHEREAS, building materials, bamboo and wood products, food processing, textiles, and manufacturing are key to the economy of this county; and

WHEREAS, the service sector, tourism and foreign trade are also experiencing rapid growth; and

WHEREAS, this relationship would promote the mutual benefits of business, science and technology, cultural, tourism, and educational exchanges; and

WHEREAS, the County of Placer has a long history with the Chinese people who came from southeastern China during the Gold Rush (1850's) and construction of the first transcontinental railroad (1860's); and

WHEREAS, from Placer County a delegation is traveling to Nanping County, and Fuzhou, the commercial hub of southeast China, Xiamen, a colonial gem and education center, and Yongding, a traditional folk village, in early June 2016; and

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California, let it be resolved, that the Placer County Board of Supervisors sanctions and supports this trip, and further, that it endorses furthering a Sister County relationship between Nanping County and the County of Placer.

